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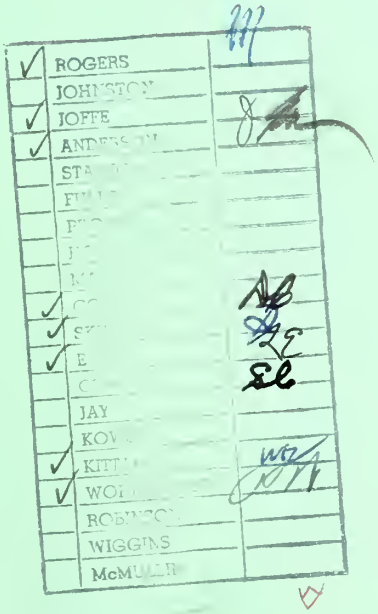
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yellowstone NATIONAL PARK

FILE NO. 207-02.3

SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1952



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NEWTON B. DRURY,
Director.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—22371

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
YELLOWSTONE PARK, WYO.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Summary of the January 1952 Monthly Narrative Report for
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

		Page
WEATHER:	Above normal temperature. Comparative precipitation and snow depths.	1
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:	Rogers in Denver, trips to Omaha and Wash. Johnston to Billings to meet McLaughlin, to Livingston C. of C. banquet meeting with Wohlbrandt, to Natural Resources meeting at Bozeman, to Denver with Mattson & Wohlbrandt to roads meeting. Joffe, Proper, Stanton, Estey & M. Johnston to Personnel Instruction Course, Proper remaining Omaha for month. Condon to Custer & to Billings conservation meeting. Jay & Ela to Livingston Red Cross Instructors Course. Breynton Finch, retired, awarded citation, etc. New leave regulations effective 6th. Plane landed inside north gate. School reopened after holidays. Safety Committee. Board of Survey.	1-3
INSPECTIONS:	John Williams, Mechanic, Teton, in for snow plow. Kenneth Roahen, F&WLS, Billings, in for elk reduction pictures. Dr. Phillip & assistants, Rocky Mtn. Experiment Station, Hamilton, Montana, in on buffalo parasite investigations.	3
IN-SERVICE TRAINING:	Staff meeting. Weekly News.	3
PUBLICITY:	LIFE Magazine men & Saturday Evening Post writers in for pictures and stories on elk reduction. Info. sent Casper Tribune. Articles in Omaha paper on interviews with Park Service men. 84,000 broadsides on hand.	
PLANS, MAPS AND SURVEYS:	Work on Canyon plans. Wohlbrandt to Denver roads meeting. Thuring called away due death of mother-in-law.	4
MAINTENANCE:	Considerable snowplowing. Difficult keep roads open to elk traps. Snow depths above normal.	5
SIGNS:	50 concrete blocks made for thermal trail signs.	4
CONSTRUCTION:	Most projects inactive. Others listed.	5

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CONCESSIONERS:	Various annual reports & franchise fees in. Hayneses to California for concessioners conf. Guy Rose returned as Chief Mechanic for Y.P.Co.	5
RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND CHAPEL USE:	Sunday School, choirs, church services. Rev. Ost to confer at Wash. Office re. student ministry program. Reports for 1951 from student ministers; 11,049 attended last year's services. Alter and other hangings given Chapel in memory of Arnold Van Heuvelen who drowned here last summer.	5-6
INTERPRETIVE SERVICES:	Films & slides returned by seas. naturalists. Condon presented program to Conservation Council	6
MUSEUM ACTIVITIES AND EXHIBITS:	Condon visited Custer Museum. Bison skulls loaned. Work on basement cupboards.	6
RESEARCH AND OBSERVATION:	Marler reports on geysers, bison, bear. McHugh in for bison study and movies. Info. on Chapel sent Park County News.	6-7
NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION:	Condon conferred with Luce re association for Custer. Chapman prepared format for Nature Notes. Marler & Mrs. Quist still employed by Assn.	7
INCREASE OR DECREASE IN TRAVEL:	3,880 persons in 1,237 cars, increase over Dec. 8 snowplanes & Sno-Cat in. Scouts skied in East.	7-8
RANGER SERVICE:	Elk & buffalo reduction, ski patrols, etc.	8
WILDLIFE: BISON:	223 buffalo slaughtered.	8
ELK:	Hunting season Park County Montana closed 31st; 3,195 taken. 641 trapped and released for hunting. 44 furnished for restocking.	9
FOREST FIRE PROTECTION:	Work on cooperative agreement with Teton N. F. Annual Forestry Report & Fire Atlas material. Reemployment offers to fire control aids.	9
BUILDING FIRE PROTECTION:	Extinguisher repairs and recharges received. Extinguishers sent for repairs.	9
TRAILS:	5 trail projects sent Region for further approval. Trail map submitted to Mattson. 1953 estimates.	10
ACCIDENTS:	4 auto accidents reported.	
LAW ENFORCEMENT:	One poaching case. Judge Wilcox in Seattle; has been ill.	10

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BIRTHS:	Son born to Mr. & Mrs. John Martin.	10
DEATHS:	Brother of Wm. Olson, father of Louis Gunzel, mother of Mrs. Mel Thuring, sister of Mrs. Dan Nelson died.	10-11
PERSONNEL:	Superintendent Luce, Custer, promoted to GS-8.	11
MISCELLANEOUS:	N.F.F.E. meeting & election. P.T.A. meeting; speaker from State College. A.F.G.E. meeting & election. Credit Union annual meeting & election; dividend. Tom McHugh presented film "Wonders of the Wilderness".	11

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OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

February 7, 1952

Memorandum

To: The Director

From: Acting Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park

Subject: Monthly Report for January 1952

Following is the report of activities for Yellowstone National Park during the month of January 1952:

Weather Conditions. Temperatures for the month were above average while the amount of precipitation was about average compared with the past five-year records. Precipitation fell on 13 days increasing the snowdepths rapidly. High winds and blizzard conditions prevailed from the 10th to the 16th causing the snow to become drifted in places exposing many wind-blown areas. Below zero temperatures occurred on five days during the month. A maximum temperature of 40° occurred on the 25th and a minimum of -19° on the 15th.

Total precipitation for the month was 1.48" as compared with 0.99" in 1951, 2.32" in 1950, 1.15" in 1949, 1.33" in 1948, 0.63" in 1947, 1.13" in 1946, 3.46" in 1945 and 3.99" in 1944.

Snow depths as of January 31 for representative stations in the park are as follows:

	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
Mammoth	14	7	10	14.5	10	9
Tower Falls	24	22	19	32	27	20
Lamar	20	10	6	27	11	10
N. E. Entrance	31.2	23.5	30	35	33	37
East Entrance	37.5	37.5	31	40	33	30
Lake	40	30	40	38.5	37	35
Snake River	55	42	37	46	39	48
W. Yellowstone	50	33	43	40	25	40

Special Activities. Superintendent Rogers was in Denver during the month engaged in work in connection with his project covering the legislative history of areas of the National Park system. On January 6 he went to Omaha where he participated in the Personnel Instruction

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Course and transacted official business related to Yellowstone. He returned to Denver on the 11th. On January 19 he went to Washington, D. C., where he attended a field meeting of superintendents with the Director and Washington officials as a representative of the Region Two field area held during the week of January 21-25. Superintendent Emmert of Glacier and Assistant Regional Director McLaughlin were also in attendance as Region Two representatives at the conference. He returned to Denver on the 28th.

Acting Superintendent Johnston made a trip to Billings on January 10 to meet Assistant Regional Director McLaughlin to discuss Yellowstone matters and to secure some surplus tires from the Billings Office of the National Park Service. He returned on the 11th. On the evening of January 14 he and Park Engineer Wohlbrandt attended the Annual Meeting and Banquet of the Livingston Chamber of Commerce. On January 18 he went to Bozeman to attend the Montana Natural Resources Council Meeting of State and Federal Agencies. On January 28 he and Park Engineer Wohlbrandt and Resident Landscape Architect Mattson went to Denver for a meeting on January 30 and 31 with Regional and Bureau of Public Roads officials regarding the 1952 road maintenance program. He expected to return to the park on February 2 while Messrs. Wohlbrandt and Mattson were to proceed to Omaha for an assignment in the Region Two Office for a week and month respectively.

Administrative Assistant Joffe, Personnel Assistant Proper, Purchasing Assistant Stanton and Park Ranger Merritt Johnston left on January 4 for Omaha where they were to attend the Personnel Instruction Course held from January 7 to 17, inclusive. Supervisory Park Ranger Estey also attended the course, making the trip by personal car and taking some annual leave enroute. Messrs. Stanton and Johnston returned to the park on the 19th, Mr. Joffe on the 27th after taking a week's annual leave, while Mr. Proper was retained in Omaha to assist on work in connection with the new promotion policy. Mr. Estey returned to his station at West Yellowstone on the 20th.

On January 24 Park Naturalist Condon went to Custer Battlefield National Monument on matters pertaining to that area and on the return trip attended the Montana Conservation Council meeting in Billings held on the 25th and 26th. Mr. Condon showed pictures and gave a talk on the park at the meeting.

Assistant Chief Ranger Jay and District Park Ranger Ela went to Livingston on January 26 to attend a Red Cross First Aid Instructors Course. They expect to conduct the standard and advanced Red Cross Course in Gardiner during the month of February, beginning February 5.

Former Assistant Chief Ranger Breynton R. Finch, who retired due to disability on September 30, 1951, was awarded a Citation of Commendable Service, Certificate of Honor Award, a lifetime pass to areas administered by the National Park Service, and a medal and lapel

button covering his services with the National Park Service. As Mr. Finch is now living at Medford, Oregon, it was not possible to make the award in person but the Citation, Certificate, etc. were sent to him by mail on January 3.

On January 6 the new leave regulations under the Annual and Sick Leave Act of 1951, Title II of Public Law 233, 82nd Congress, became effective. The law provides for 13 days annual leave for employees with less than three years of service, 20 days for employees with more than three years but less than 15 years of service, and 26 days for employees with 15 or more years of service. Sick leave is to be determined at the rate of 13 days a year and can accumulate without limitation.

A plane owned and operated by J. R. Harrington of Dillon, Montana, landed in the field in front of the Gardiner Ranger Station on January 6 with one passenger, Floyd Miller. The plane was equipped with skis and was unable to land at the Gardiner airfield, hence, forcing the landing in the field inside. The takeoff was made without difficulty.

The Mammoth School reopened on January 7 after the Christmas holidays. The school in Gardiner reopened on January 2.

The Yellowstone Park Safety Committee for 1952 was appointed on January 24 and consist of Robert R. Robinson, Chairman; William G. Proper, Clerk; Thomas F. Ela and Melvin A. Thuring, Members; with J. Stanley Fillmore and W. Verde Watson as Alternates.

The Yellowstone Park Board of Survey for 1952 was appointed on January 29 and included Philip H. Wohlbrandt, Chairman; John Galle, Clerk; Roger H. Miller and Curtis K. Skinner, Members; with Joseph Joffe and Deate T. White as Alternates.

Inspections. John A. Williams, Mechanic, Grand Teton National Park, in January 8 to obtain surplus snowplow.

Kenneth F. Roahen, Federal Game Warden, Fish and Wildlife Service, Billings, in January 18 to get pictures in connection with the buffalo and elk reduction programs.

Dr. C. B. Phillip and two assistants from the Rocky Mountain Experiment Station, Hamilton, Montana, in January 26 to examine buffalo entrails for possible parasites.

In-Service Training. A staff meeting was held in the Superintendent's Office on January 16 during which the principal topic of discussion was the new paper trash bags, some 44,000 of which have been received for use in the park.

The Weekly Newsletter was issued each Thursday during the month to keep employees, concessioners and others currently informed on park happenings.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. [illegible] Fitch [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], Oregon, it was not possible to take his oath in person and [illegible], certificate, etc. were sent to him by mail on January [illegible].

On January [illegible], [illegible], the Labor regulations under the Annual and Sick Leave Act of 1951, Title II of Public Law 233, 82nd Congress, became effective. The law provides for 13 days annual leave for employees with less than three years of service, 20 days for employees with more than three years but less than 15 years of service, and 26 days for employees with 15 or more years of service. Sick leave is to be accumulated at the rate of 13 days a year and can accumulate without limitation.

A plane owned and operated by [illegible] [illegible], Montana, landed in the field in front of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] on January 6 with one passenger, [illegible]. The plane was equipped with skis and was unable to land at the [illegible] airfield, [illegible], [illegible] the landing in the field [illegible]. The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] January [illegible] after the Christmas holidays. The school [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] on January [illegible].

The following [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for 1952 was appointed on January 22 and [illegible] [illegible]: [illegible], Chairman, [illegible]; [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible]; with [illegible] as alternate.

The following [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for 1952 was appointed on January [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible]; Clerk Roger [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], with [illegible] and Leslie [illegible] as alternates.

Inspections. [illegible] [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], in January [illegible] [illegible] surplus [illegible].

[illegible], Federal [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] Services, Billings, on January 18 to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with the buffalo and elk [illegible] program.

Dr. [illegible] and [illegible] from the [illegible] [illegible] Experiment Station, Hamilton, Montana, in January [illegible] [illegible] animals for possible [illegible].

Information Exchange. A staff meeting was held in the Superintendent's Office on January [illegible] during which the principal topic of discussion was the new power truck [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of which have been received for use in the [illegible].

The [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] during the month to keep employees, [illegible] and others [illegible] [illegible] on park happenings.

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Twenty-four elk captured in Lamar Trap for release in connection with "Elk Lift".

Photo by Watson - 1-18-52

Publicity. Ed Ogle, Writer, and Carl Iwasaki, Photographer for LIFE Magazine, were in the park from January 4 to 8 obtaining pictures and material in connection with the elk reduction program for use in an early issue of LIFE Magazine. Advice was received that the article and pictures were to be used in the February 4 issue.

Edmund Christopherson and Ernst Peterson, Writers for the Saturday Evening Post and other magazines, arrived in the park January 8 to obtain material and pictures for a story on the elk reduction program.

On January 30, information on the park was sent to the Casper Tribune-Herald for use in their special Wyoming edition to be issued in February.

Several articles on the park appeared in the Omaha World-Herald during the month from interviews with Director Wirth, Superintendent Rogers and Administrative Assistant Joffe while they were in Omaha in connection with the Personnel Instruction Course.

A total of 84,000 broadsides for 1951 were on hand at the end of the month.

Plans, Maps and Surveys. The Engineering Division personnel spent most of the month on the preparation of plans for the Canyon campground and main Canyon water system.

The Park Engineer attended the annual road meeting with the Regional and Bureau of Public Roads officials at Denver on January 30 and 31 from where he will go to Omaha for an assignment in the Region Two Office for a week.

Assistant Engineer Thuring was called away the latter part of the month by the death of his mother-in-law.

Maintenance. Snow fell almost every day during the month and high winds were common. This required almost continuous snow removal operation. Keeping roads open to the elk traps required much additional work and, because of the low standard of construction, bulldozers and rotary snow plows had to be used. Snow depths are considerably above normal for this time of year, and, if storms continue, snow plowing operations in the spring will be slow and costly.

Besides the three permanent foremen and operator, one to two additional operators were needed to keep up with the plowing and sanding operations.

Signs. About 50 concrete blocks were made for mounting trail signs in thermal areas.

New Construction. All road construction projects were closed down for the winter.

All other projects except the following were inactive due to winter closing down of work:

Account 233.01, Campground Rehabilitation Throughout Park.--Two men spent a few days prefabricating campground tables.

Account 332.10, Fire Meter, Mammoth.--Job is about 90% complete.

Account 234, Mammoth Museum Rehabilitation.--Two large cupboards for storage of equipment have been prefabricated.

Concessioners. The Annual Report for Hamilton Stores, Inc. was received in the park January 9 and transmitted to the Region Two Office and Washington Office. The Yellowstone Park Company Annual Report for 1951 was received in the park on January 11 and transmitted to the Region Two and Washington Offices. The Annual Report for Pryor Stores, Inc. was received in the park January 14 and transmitted to the Region Two and Washington Offices.

On January 16 the Washington Office mailed to Haynes, Inc. their new contract No. I-100np-440 for 20 years from January 1, 1951, through December 31, 1970. The Haynes franchise fee for 1951 was received in the park January 21 and turned over to the Cashier for deposit to Miscellaneous Receipts. On January 21 Mr. Haynes and his daughter Lida left Bozeman for Los Angeles and San Francisco at which latter place they expected to attend the Western Conference of National Park Concessioners scheduled for February 1.

The franchise fee for Drs. Lueck and Pearson, the park medical officers, was received on January 16 and turned over to the Cashier for deposit to Miscellaneous Receipts.

Guy Rose, a former employee of the Yellowstone Park Company, returned to the park on January 14 to take over the duties of the position of Chief Mechanic for the Company to succeed Eugene Dunlap, who recently resigned.

Religious Services and Chapel Use. The regular Sunday School services were held each Sunday in the Chapel at 10:30 a.m. The children's choir has been complete with a full twenty-four members and have provided some fine music.

On the 13th at 7:30 p.m. Reverenc E. A. Syms of Livingston, Montana, conducted the non-denominational Protestent service. The Mammoth children's choir and the Gardiner-Mammoth adults' choir provided the music.

Arrangements were made in late January for Reverend Warren W. Ost of Princeton University to meet in early February with members of the Director's Staff in Washington to discuss with them the various aspects and possibilities of the student ministry program.

During the month the Church Committee received from the student ministers at Princeton their books and records of the 1951 season's operations. 11,049 persons attended the services conducted by them in 1951 at main centers of activity in the park.

The Church Committee received in early January, altar, lectern and pulpit hangings which are given to the Chapel by the Van Heuvelen family in memory of Arnold Van Heuvelen who was drowned in the Yellowstone River August 10, 1951.

Interpretive Services. Movie films and kodaslides on loan to former seasonal Park Ranger-Naturalists were returned during the month. Hennessy and Shaw both presented programs to California audiences.

On the 25th Chief Park Naturalist Condon presented a program on Yellowstone Park's resources to the annual convention banquet gathering of the Montana Conservation Council in Billings, Montana. There were 107 persons present representing state, federal, agricultural, industrial and business organizations interested in the wise conservation of our resources. Condon also participated in the panel discussion of "Increasing Responsibility of Public Land Operators for Conservation".

Museum Activities and Exhibits. Condon visited the Custer Battlefield National Monument Museum on the 25th and at that time studied some of the exhibit panels, hoping to utilize some of the arrangement ideas in completing plans for Yellowstone wayside exhibits and planned museum exhibit revisions.

The skulls and capes of two bison bulls were shipped out on indefinite loan on the 28th. One went to Illinois University at Carbondale, Illinois, the other to the Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah.

The carpenters were working on the installation of new storage cupboards in Room 1 of the museum basement.

Research and Observation. George D. Marler reports several interesting observations from the Upper Geyser Basin for January. There are 23 bison frequenting the Old Faithful area. It is thought that a black bear is hibernating under the Lodge. The Daisy Geyser which for years has erupted on an interval of approximately 90 minutes has up to February 1 erupted only three known times since December 28. The Splendid Geyser which is associated with the Daisy has erupted on several occasions. The Brilliant Pool, an intimate member of the Daisy group has been flooding almost constantly, a pronounced change from its past type of activity. The dissipation of energy through this flooding is undoubtedly the factor which is limiting the activity of the Daisy or Splendid Geysers.

The Giant Geyser has continued its vigorous chain of eruptions and during January erupted seven times, the greatest number recorded for years on this geyser. One eruption interval was only 68 hours.

Mr. Tom McHugh arrived in Yellowstone on the 24th and left on the 30th. Mr. McHugh was here to gather data for his bison research study and to obtain wildlife winter movies.

In reply to a request from the Park County News of Livingston, Montana, for detailed information on the history of the religious services conducted in Yellowstone and on the story of the construction of the Yellowstone National Park Chapel, considerable library research was done by Chief Park Naturalist Condon and a comprehensive report submitted to the paper along with some pictures.

Natural History Association. While at Custer Battlefield National Monument Condon went over Yellowstone Library and Museum Association business with Superintendent Luce and discussed with him the possibilities of that area organizing for an association of their own. Investigations of this idea will be carried further and the Custer area activities will continue to be a Yellowstone Library and Museum Association function.

Assistant Chief Ranger Chapman is cooperating with the Association and is preparing a cover format which will be used on all future issues of Yellowstone Nature Notes. As soon as this is completed the January-February issue of Nature Notes will be completed.

The Association has continued its purchase of books and pamphlets for the Yellowstone Park Library and has started obtaining its sales stock for the 1952 season.

Mr. George D. Marler continued as a full time employee of the Association and has continued his geyser observations in the Upper Geyser Basin. Mrs. Alice Quist has been employed two afternoons each week as a clerk and has handled some of the Association's correspondence and has posted the book records.

Increase or Decrease in Travel. A total of 3880 visitors in 1237 vehicles entered the park this month compared to 3850 persons in 1216 vehicles for the same month last year which is practically the same number. There was a substantial increase over last month, however. The large majority of the travel was accounted for by elk hunters in the Gardiner area driving into the park to view the game animals between Gardiner and Cooke, Montana, and to take pictures. A number of people visit the park over the week-ends for skiing and other outdoor activities.

Eight snowplanes entered the West and South Entrances during the month going as far as Old Faithful and West Thumb. A Sno-Cat owned by the U. S. Geological Survey attempted a trip from West Yellowstone to Yellowstone Lake Station but had to turn back near West Thumb due to

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Putting tag in ear of one of the elk to be released in connection with the "Elk Lift".

Photo by Watson - 1-18-52

deep breaking by the machine and also wind drifts along the lake shore.

The ranger stationed at East Entrance reported that 116 cars drove to the entrance during the month. Two boy scout troops consisting of 15 scouts and two scout masters skied about four miles in the park from the East Gate and returned in connection with their training program.

Ranger Service. All available Protection Division personnel were engaged in assisting in the elk and buffalo reduction program being carried on during the month. Elk trapping continued all month while the buffalo reduction, including the corraling, slaughter and feeding required most of the month. Hunting patrols along the northern boundary continued the entire month since the elk hunting season in Park County did not close until January 31.

Ski patrols for the month included: West Yellowstone to Old Faithful and to Cougar Creek patrol cabin; South Entrance to West Thumb. and to Cascade Creek patrol cabin as well as up the Snake River to Coulter Creek meadows.

The Government buildings at Bacon Rind Road Camp, West Yellowstone, Snake River, Old Faithful and West Thumb have been shovelled. Other buildings requiring shovelling will be cleared of snow early next month.

Other activities performed by the Protection Division include, waterfowl census, special hunting patrols, law enforcement, accident investigation, taking snowcourse readings and reading the water gauges, and the preparation of correspondence and reports.

A great deal of supervisory work was performed by the Chief Ranger and Assistant Chief Rangers in connection with the game reduction programs. in a national park?

Wildlife and Fish Cultural Activities. BISON REDUCTION. A total of 223 bison were removed from the Lamar area by slaughter operations which commenced on January 14 and terminated on January 28. An unusual and very successful feature of the reduction was the removal of 92 bison from the Horseshoe area. These were animals which could not be herded to the vicinity of the Lamar Unit and trapped in the corrals. Fifty-seven of these animals were trapped and shot in the Crystal Creek elk trap and 35 were shot on the open range. This operation removed all but a few of the bison which have hampered elk trapping work at the Lamar and Crystal Creek traps. Mr. Henry J. Helgeson of Missoula, Montana, was awarded the bid for butchering the buffalo at a price of $3.20 per animal.

Two hog-dressed carcasses were furnished as specimens for the Grand Rapids Public Museum, Grand Rapids, Michigan, and 221 carcasses and hides were furnished Indian Agencies and Tribal Councils.

Seventy-nine bison remained in the Lamar Unit corrals when slaughter operations were terminated and these will be retained and fed in the corrals until trapping of live elk is discontinued for the season. Observations indicate that approximately 50 other bison are on the open range between Hellroaring and Cache Creeks.

ELK. Hunting season. The 1951-52 elk hunting season in southern Park County, Montana remained open through January 31 which is the maximum period provided by law. The official report submitted by District Warden Supervisor Sherman shows that 3,195 elk were removed from the northern Yellowstone herd as a result of the hunting season. Montana Fish and Game Department officials reported that 2,769 elk were classified according to age and sex as follows: mature males 672, mature females 1,489, spike bulls 244, male calves 151, female calves 213.

Trapping operations. During the period of December 20, 1951, through January 26, 1952, 641 elk were trapped in the park and released in the open hunting area north of the park boundary. The Montana Fish and Game Department reported that 341 of these released elk were reported taken by hunters. Elk released for hunting were ear-tagged and marked with green paint for future identification.

During January live elk were furnished for restocking or propagation as follows:

Mont. Fish & Game Dept. for Red Lodge area	1/14/52	11
Howard Hall, Cedar Rapids, Iowa	1/28/52	3
Jaime F. Garza, Monterrey, N. L., Mexico	1/31/52	30

Trapping operations will be continued as long as practicable in order to fill approved requests for approximately 500 animals.

Forest Fire Protection. The rough draft of a supplement to the Cooperative Agreement with the Teton National Forest was prepared to cover smokejumper activities between the two agencies. This will be submitted to the Teton Forest in the near future for their comments and recommendations.

The Annual Forestry Report for the year 1951 was submitted to the Region and Director's Offices as well as the Fire Atlas material for the same year.

Offers of employment were sent to six last year's fire control aids.

Building Fire Protection. Three orders of fire extinguisher repair parts and recharges were received during the month.

Twenty-eight plunger type fire extinguishers sent to the Fyr-Fyter Company and the Pyrene Manufacturing Company for repair were received back in practically new condition. Cost of repairing this type of extinguisher in approximately half the cost of purchasing new and represents a considerable saving.

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Dobbing paint on one of the elk to be
released in connection with "Elk Lift".

Photo by Watson - 1-18-52

Trails. Proposed construction on five trail projects was approved by this office and submitted to the Region Two Office for further approval.

The Master Plan Trail Map and 3A sheets with corrections in mileages and designations were submitted to Resident Landscape Architect Mattson for revision.

A rough copy of the 1953 trail estimates was prepared for Park Engineer Wohlbrandt. While at the Regional Office, Mr. Wohlbrandt will submit these estimates and also secure additional instructions in the preparation of the final estimates. It was necessary to drastically reduce the estimated maintenance costs to conform with the allotment which the Regional Office informed us we could expect for trail work this next fiscal year.

Accidents and Public Safety. A total of four motor vehicle accidents were reported during the month, two being Class "A" and two Class "B". None of them involved Government equipment, although the wife of the Electrical Supervisor narrowly escaped serious injury when the personal car she was driving plunged off in the Gardiner Canyon between Mammoth Springs and Gardiner. Only slight injuries were suffered but the car was badly damaged. The causes of all the accidents appeared to be improper driving considering the snow and ice-covered roads.

Law Enforcement. One law enforcement case involving two men who shot two elk in the park was handled by the Chief Ranger's Office. The case is still pending and a trial will be held upon the return of the U. S. Commissioner to the park. The evidence obtained indicated that the two men deliberately shot the elk in the park and removed the carcasses but did not accomplish the deed before they were apprehended.

U. S. Commissioner T. Paul Wilcox, who has been in Seattle, Washington, since the middle of December, was confined to the hospital near the end of the month but it was learned that he was making satisfactory recovery and expected to be released early in February.

Births. A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. John A. Martin, Jr. of Gardiner at the Park Hospital in Livingston on January 14. Mr. Martin is employed as a seasonal truck driver for the National Park Service here.

Deaths. William Olson, National Park Service Painter, left the park on January 12 for St. Paul, Minnesota, where he had been called due to the death of his brother who died in Los Angeles and who was to be buried in St. Paul.

The father of Louis Gunzel, Park Ranger, died at Independence, Missouri, on January 11. Mr. and Mrs. Gunzel left the park on January 10 for Independence where they had been called when Mr. Gunzel's father was taken ill.

Mrs. Alice E. Stinson, 58, mother of Mrs. Melvin A. Thuring, wife of Engineer Thuring, died in the Park Hospital in Livingston on January 23 after an extended illness. Mr. and Mrs. Thuring accompanied the body to Grand Forks, North Dakota for burial. Mrs. Stinson had been making her home with the Thurings at Mammoth.

Mrs. Emily Maloney, sister of Mrs. Dan Nelson, wife of District Park Ranger Dan S. Nelson, died at Spokane, Washington, on January 29 from a heart ailment coupled with an attack of influenza. Mrs. Nelson left for Spokane on the 30th to attend the funeral.

Personnel. Captain E. S. Luce, Superintendent of Custer Battlefield National Monument, coordinated under Yellowstone, received a promotion from GS-7, $4,455 per annum, to GS-8, $4,620 per annum, on January 18.

Miscellaneous. The January meeting of Local 465, National Federation of Federal Employees was held in the Canteen on January 7 at which the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Thomas F. Ela, President; Stanley McComas, Vice President; Alice Kohout, Secretary; Raymond Easton, Treasurer; John Jay, Guard; Board of Directors: Edward M. Schultz, Joe Kurtz, Rudolf Grimm and William Wright.

At the P.T.A. meeting held in the Canteen on January 8, Professor Cyril Conrad of the Art Department, Montana State College, Bozeman, was the speaker.

The Yellowstone local of the American Federation of Government Employees held its January meeting in the Canteen on January 21 at which the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: William A. Olson, President; Thomas M. Thompson, Vice President; Lloyd R. Winkle, Secretary-Treasurer; and Walter W. Stebbins, Guard.

The Federal Credit Union met in the Canteen on January 30 and the following officers will conduct the business of the Union for the ensuing year: Board of Directors: Roger H. Miller, President; Howard S. Kocher, Lester C. Abbie and Thomas A. Bowman, Vice Presidents; and Robert J. Carr, Secretary-Treasurer. Supervisory Committee: Dwight E. Richards, Chairman; Ernest R. I. Anderson and Warren D. Hotchkiss, Members. Credit Committee: John W. Galle, Chairman; Ralph Reed and Thomas F. Ela, Members; Thomas M. Thompson, John W. Jay and J. Stanley Fillmore, Alternate Members. A 2.4% dividend was declared for last year.

Mr. Tom McHugh presented to the people of the Mammoth Community on Monday night the 28th his lecture film, "Wonders of the Wilderness". These are 16 mm. colored movies made in Jackson Hole, Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park and were of high quality and unusual interest.

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In duplicate
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Fred T. Johnston
Acting Superintendent

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

Loading Montana State Fish and Game Department truck with elk at Lamar trap for release in connection with "Elk Lift".

Photo by Watson - 1-18-52